Government carefully monitors the price levels of essential commodities and undertakes measures as required to contain the same. The anti-inflationary policies of the Government in the recent past included fiscal and monetary discipline; rationalization of excise and import duties to lighten the burden on the poor; freeze on Central issue prices under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) for wheat and rice; import of wheat to augment supply in the Southern zone; and regular monitoring of retail and wholesale prices of essential commodities.

Loans under PMRY to Bihar

†335. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that only 13 per cent of the target to provide loan under the Pardhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana has been achieved in Bihar, whereas the target has been enhanced by 35 per cent during the financial year 2005-06;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The details of targets, applications received, sanctioned and disbursed under Prime Minister Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) for the State of Bihar during the years 2004-05 and 2005-06 (upto December, 2005) are as under:

Year	Target No. of Applica-tions)	No. of Applic-ations Received	Sactioned		Disbursement		% of Sanction of target (4) as a % of (2)
			No. of Applic-ations	Amount Rs. Lakh	No. of Applic-ations	Amount Rs. Lakh.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
2004-05	16000	15837	11437	10314.90	10340	8831.32	71.48
2005-06 (upto Dec. 2005)	25000	9172	4788	4184.68	3145	2471.25	19.15

The lower percentage of sanction to target in 2005-06 (upto December, 2005) is to be viewed in the context of the upward revision of the target from 16,000 to 25,000 in October, 2005 at the request of the State

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Government. Past trends indicate that the achievement of the programme improves as the financial year progresses.

(c) State Bank of India, the Convener of State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) for the State of Bihar has reported that during the SLBC meeting held on 17.1.2006, all the member Banks have been advised to issue suitable instructions to their respective branches for proactive implementation of PMRY and to take adequate steps for achieving the allocated targets within the stipulated time frame, monitor the progress and take corrective steps whenever the performance is low. Further, the overall performance in implementation and achievement of targets under the scheme is reviewed periodically at SLBC meetings.

Cracks in Sun Temple at Konark

*336. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 12th Century Sun Temple at Konark, Orissa has developed cracks;

(b) if so, the reasons for such happening and details in this regard; and

(c) the action taken to restore/repair the Temple?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Due to inherent porous nature of the Londalite rock used for the construction of the temple, distress is noticed at the lower most row of the Super structure (Jagmohan) at the South-East side. The iron dowels provided to bind the architectural members have deteriorated and oxidization has resulted in cracks on the edges of the member. The exterior surface of the temple is also exposed to constant saline action due to salt laden winds from the sea which is another cause of deterioration.

(c) Steps are being taken to arrest the deterioration of exterior surface of the monument. These include removal of salt by paper pulp treatment, fungicidal treatment of contain micro-vegetational growth, consolidation of weathered stones and water repellent treatment, besides routine maintenance.

The cantilever members of the Super structure (Jagmohan) are supported with tubular scaffolding and stainless steel pins are used to consolidate the architectural members.